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BY HOFER BROS.
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DR. WITHYCOMBE AND HIS PLATFORM.

Walter Lyon says in his Independent Enterprise:
"Dr. Withycombe has completed the construction of his platform, and jumped on it with both feet."

Well, that seems to be more than any of the other aspirants for the governorship SEEM TO BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH.

Under the direct nominating system each candidate must make his own platform, and Dr. Withycombe deserves credit for his courage.

He has stated plainly where he stands on vital matters of progress in our state government, and the ideas are not new to him.

He seems to have square, practical, common-sense ideas, and the ability to formulate them, **THOUGH HE IS A FARMER.**

He is not afraid to say Portland should have a better live stock market, and shows the reason why agricultural languishes.

Three cents for live beef and twelve to fifteen cents for dressed is a robbery at both ends of the line at Portland.

It is the same way with the prunes and other farm products, and if a little kick from the farmers will help **LET US ALL HELP THEM KICK.**

So far all admit that the farmer's occupation is honorable and respectable and one office could be given to the farmers.

THE NEED OF TAX REVISION.

There is a state tax commission at work on this proposition, on salaries, of course.

The county assessors are at work on the same proposition in convention at Portland.

The Woodburn Farmers' and Shippers' congress Friday will hear a report on the same subject.

The chances are **THE PEOPLE WILL GET NO TAXATION REFORM FROM THE OFFICE HOLDING CLASS**, with few exceptions.

Secretary of State Dunbar has done good educational work in the reports from his office.

The people will get no relief from outrageous injustice and abnormal burdens of taxation until they help themselves.

If the tax revision bill reported at Woodburn follows the recommendations of the Farmers' and Shippers' Congress at McMinnville, **IT SHOULD BE INITIATED AND ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE.**

Neither the tax commission nor the legislature will give the people the relief demanded. They must act on their own behalf.

UNCLE SAME WILL CARE FOR THE COLUMBIA.

The people of Oregon should cease to worry about the government not taking care of the Columbia.

The whole United States is **JUST AS MUCH CONCERNED TO KEEP THAT RIVER OPEN AS OREGON IS.**

Chairman Burton of the rivers and harbors committee graciously says the improvements will not be abandoned.

In other words, the government has nearly five millions stuck in that river, and will not abandon its own property.

Let the people of Oregon concern themselves **MORE ABOUT THEIR SMALLER HARBORS**, and all will be well.

Filed Their Petition.

A committee of "Woman Suffragists," chaperoned by Jefferson Myers, appeared at the office of Secretary of State Dunbar yesterday afternoon, and

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Many persons in Salem have relatives and friends in foreign lands to whom they usually send a small sum of money for Christmas.

We draw our own drafts direct on every country in the civilized world at the lowest current rates of exchange. The drafts are drawn payable in the currency of the country drawn upon. There is no risk in sending drafts.

Capital National Bank

The Taking Cold Habit

The old cold goes; a new one quickly comes. It's the story of a weak throat, a tendency to consumption. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral breaks up the taking-cold habit. It strengthens, heals. Ask your doctor to tell you all about it. We have no secrets! We publish the formulas of all our medicines. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

SOLVING MYSTERY OF CORAL

(By Andrew Wilson.)

No more interesting chapter of natural science was ever written than that which Darwin compiled concerning the history of coral reefs. It was in 1842 that the great naturalist gave to the world his reading of the story of the corals. Prior to that date nobody had successfully ventured on the solution of a complex puzzle connected with the erection of the reefs. Briefly stated, this problem had reference to the depth at which a coral could live and could build up "the imperishable masonry of the sea. Everybody had agreed then, as they agree now, that the reef building corals cannot live in deep water. They demand light and they require oxygen in plenty, and these items of life are only to be had relatively near the surface. A depth of 150 feet is given as the maximum limit of the corals. Below this only dead and gone corals are to be found. This is the stable preliminary fact which starts a long and interesting controversy, to the elucidation or settlement of which recent details must be regarded as having contributed in a highly remarkable fashion.

The question, "How, if coral cannot live below 150 feet in the sea, are reefs which rise in oceans miles deep erected?" sums up the essence of the coral problem. It was to this question that Darwin framed the first philosophic reply. He took as the keynote of his theory—framed on facts observed by him during his voyages—the sinking of land. This last is, of course, a familiar and constant feature of the earth. Land rises and land sinks as part and parcel of the cosmical scheme. Large tracts have been submerged, just as rocks formed on the sea bed have been elevated and added to the upper crust of the globe. Darwin, discarding the notion that submarine hills or elevations formed foundations for coral building, led us to see that the polyps began their work on the shores of ordinary land. Here they made, at their own depth, a fringing reef. As long as this remained stationary no great change happened to the reef. It could not increase out of the water, and it could not increase downwards below the limit of coral depth.

Suppose, however, the land or island began to sink, then fresh bases would be presented for coral growth. The lowest corals, carried beyond their depth, would die; the uppermost ones would continue to grow, this increase keeping pace with the slow subsidence of the reef. In due season a second kind of reef would be formed on the foundation of the first. This is the barrier reef which is separated from the land by a belt of water. It is because the coral grows fastest on the sea face of the reef, while the inside corals die, that a channel is naturally formed between reef and land. Finally, said Darwin, suppose that the land subsidence continues, and suppose that the original island completely disappears, then around the old land we shall have produced a great coral cup, the edge or rim of which appears at the surface of the ocean as the perfect coral reef or atoll, enclosing a sheet of water termed a lagoon. The size and shape of the coral ring will depend on the size and shape of the original land.

A more recent theory maintains that atolls may be built up on volcanic formations arising from the sea depths and brought up to the coral limit of life through the deposition on them of chalk animalcules and the like. The particular shape of the atoll, it is contended here, would be due to a kind of wasting process going on in the coral mass whereby through chemical action, the central part would be eaten away leaving the coral growth active at the edge. Such a mode of atoll formation of "fairly wings" in grass. In this second theory no need is experienced for land subsidence, so that it is a battle to the death, in a sense, which is waged between the opposing views.

Darwin often expressed the wish that some one would bore down into the rim of an atoll, and subject the bore to examination by way of ascertaining whether his views were correct or not. Evidently, if such a boring were made, the question would be settled either by finding a tremendous thickness of coral built up as the original land sank, or by discovering a limited coral area lying upon a volcanic or other formation.

tion. Now, such a boring has been successfully accomplished at the atoll of Funafuti, one of the Ellice islands, by an Australian expedition. After successive failures there was reached in 1898 a depth of bore of 1114 feet into the rim of the atoll. Besides, borings were undertaken to a depth of 144 feet in the bed of the lagoon itself. The Royal society has just published the results of the examinations of the bores, which are to be seen in part in the British museum, part having been returned to Australia for the study of science at the antipodes.

It may be shortly said that the character of the borings goes to support Darwin's theory. They show down to a depth of at least 1100 feet no evidence whatever of any foundation being represented, such as the second theory of coral reefs demands. Unless corals can live in much deeper water than is admitted, it is clear they could only attain this thickness through the sinking of the land on which they first began to grow; and this sinking is stated to represent at least a depth of 900 feet. Sundry other marine organisms, chalk animalcules, lime building sea weeds, and the like assist in the progress of the reef building; but their share in the work is entirely subsidiary to that of the corals. Even, if it is probable, Funafuti originally was a submarine mass, it is clear its atoll could only have been formed by the subsidence of the mass; and if some other reefs seem to support the second theory, none the less is this recent work a brilliant demonstration of the correctness of Darwin's views.

Of Interest to Thin Weak People.

It is perfectly understood by every sick man or woman that if they can get some remedy that will stop the gradual loss of flesh and strength, their recovery is assured. People that are nervous and unsteady, with dizzy spells, weakened memory, and loss of ambition, their blood is thin and watery. It shows in their sallow complexion and tired manner, soon as they commence to gain flesh they look better and sleep better. To gain from 1 to 3 lbs of good solid flesh per week, the blood must be made rich and pure, Dr. Gunn's Blood and Nerve Tonic puts in the body the very pith of what makes pure, rich blood in the most direct way, and cures disease by making strength. This tonic is in tablet form, to be taken right after meals. Sold by all druggists for 75c per box, or 3 boxes for \$2. For women's weakness a better remedy was never made.

Her Explanation.

"I understand your husband shot a deer when on his hunting trip."
"Yes," answered the woman who is slightly sarcastic. "Accidents will happen."—Washington Star.

Furious Fighting.

"For seven years," writes Geo. W. Hoffman, of Harper, Wash., "I had a bitter battle with chronic stomach and liver trouble, but at last I won, and cured my diseases by the use of Electric Bitters. I unhesitatingly recommend them to all, and don't intend in the future to be without them in the house. They are certainly a wonderful medicine, to have cured such a bad case as mine." Sold under guarantee to do the same for you, by J. C. Perry, druggist, at 50c a bottle. Try them today.

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E. Hofer

Perfectly Suitable.

Glymber (to valet)—Now, John, when the guests are here tonight I shall call you Jean.

Valet—Very well, sir; and what shall I call you?

"Oh, you blockhead—!"

"Very well, sir; anything you say."

—Translated for Tales from Famille Journal.

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Itching piles produce moisture and cause itching, this form, as well as Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles are cured by Dr. Bo-san-ko's Pile Remedy. Stops itching and bleeding. Absorbs tumors. 50c a jar at druggists, or sent by mail. Treatise free. Write me about your case. Dr. Bosanko, Philadelphia, Pa.

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